

Message Text

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TREAS: CLEIGH EA/ PHL: TWALSH (SUBS)

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C O R R E C T E D COPY (OMISSION LAST LINE PARA 4)

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: GATT: PHILIPPINE PROVISIONAL ACCESSION

REF: (A) L/3841, (B) GENEVA 2016, (C) STATE 95923

FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BASED ON MATERIAL CONTAINED REF (A)
SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO SECRETARIAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
WITH APOLOGIES FOR THEIR DELAY.

1. IN HOW MANY CASES DID 1972 REVISION OF TARIFF SCHEDULE
RESULT IN INCREASE IN RATES OF DUTY AND WHAT IS 1971 VALUE
OF IMPORTED ARTICLES AFFECTED BY THESE INCREASES? CAN THE
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PHILIPPINES PROVIDE A LIST OF ITEMS FOR WHICH DUTIES WERE REVISED UPWARD?

2. WHAT IS RATIONALE FOR UPWARD REVISION OF DUTIES IN 1972 ON NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS?

3. HOW WILL " PERIODIC GRADUAL REDUCTION" OF PROTECTIVE TARIFFS, REFERRED TO IN PHILIPPINE MEMORANDUM (L/3841), WORK?

4. IS METHOD OF VALUATION FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSES FULLY IN ACCORD WITH GATT ARTICLE VII? WHAT IS RATIONALE FOR INFLATING THE VALUATION OF GOODS FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSES BY 10 PERCENT OF THE HOME CONSUMPTION VALUE?

5. DOES PHILIPPINES JUSTIFY ALL ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATORY MEASURES AS NECESSARY FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND/ OR DEVELOPMENTAL PURPOSES? DO CONTROLS COMPLY FULLY WITH ARTICLE XII-- XV, AND XVIII?

6. PRESENT TARIFF CLASSIFICATIONS NUMBERING 1250 CONFORM TO THE BTN WHILE SITC CLASSIFICATIONS ARE USED IN DEFINING ESSENTIAL IMPORT CATEGORIES. DOES THE GOP PLAN TO OR HAS IT CONSIDERED CONVERTING ITS ESSENTIALITY CLASSIFICATIONS INTO BTN TERMS FOR FACILITY OF COMPARISON WITH THE TARIFF CLASSIFICATIONS?

7. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT OPENING OF LETTERS OF CREDIT IS PROHIBITED FOR APPROXIMATELY 900 ESSENTIALITY CATEGORIES. WILL GOP MAKE LIST OF THESE CATEGORIES AVAILABLE TO GATT? HOW OFTEN ARE THESE ESSENTIALITY CLASSIFICATIONS REVIEWED? HOW DOES GOP JUSTIFY THIS LONG LIST OF PROHIBITED ITEMS?

8. WHAT ARE " CERTAIN CONDITIONS" UNDER WHICH PROHIBITED ITEMS MAY BE IMPORTED? DOES SYSTEM OF IMPORT PROHIBITIONS OPERATE FULLY IN ACCORD WITH ARTICLES I, III, X AND XIII?

9. IS CONSULAR INVOICE REQUIRED FOR ALL COMMERCIAL SHIPMENTS? WHAT IS COST OF CONSULAR INVOICE AND WHERE MAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEY BE OBTAINED? DOES GOP FORESEE TIME WHEN BONA FIDE COMMERCIAL INVOICES WILL BE ACCEPTABLE FOR ALL IMPORTS?

10. HOW IS AMOUNT OF STATUTORY MARK- UP PERCENTAGE USED IN CALCULATING THE ADVANCE SALES TAX BASE DETERMINED AND HOW MUCH IS IT?

11. ARE MEASURES TO BOOST EXPORTS COMPATIBLE WITH
ARTICLE XVI? PORTER

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